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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 169
20 April 1954

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1. The following were present:

Mr. Clinton	State
Mr. Kain	State
Colonel Jesse	Army
Major Jacobson	Army
Captain Norgaard	Navy
Lieut. Madden	Navy
Major Malone	Air Force
Lieut. Shelton	Air Force
	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA (Vice Chairman)

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2. The Chairman announced the appointment of Colonel William C. Jesse to serve as senior Department of the Army representative on the NIS Committee, effective 3 April 1954. Major James W. Jacobson II. will serve as NIS Coordinator for Department of the Army and as Alternate Department of the Army representative on the Committee from 3 April 1954.

3. Release of NIS to SHAPE and SACLANT

The Army and Navy members reported agreement on the release of NIS elements to the international staffs of SHAPE and SACLANT and their major subordinate commands. The release to SHAPE and SACLANT is determined by the respective Executive Agencies on a "need to know" basis. Release to major subordinate commands will be made by the State-Defense Information Control Committee as the "need to know" is established by SHAPE and SACLANT.

4. Request by Export-Import Bank for NIS

Copies of a request from the Export-Import Bank for certain sections of the NIS on specified Middle Eastern countries were distributed to the members for review by their Agencies.

5. Proposed Changes by Army in the NIS Program

Copies of a memorandum from the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Department of the Army, dated 5 April 1954, which raised certain questions relative to the NIS Program were sent by the Chairman to the members on 12 April 1954 with the request that the views of their respective agencies be obtained and the members be prepared to discuss all aspects of the matter at the 20 April meeting of the NIS Committee. This memorandum contained recommendations on the following four matters on which the Committee held discussions:

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a. Concurrences

1) Section 11, Strategic Significance of the NIS Area, CIA (with joint assistance) be changed to read: "CIA (with joint concurrence)".

The Chairman reported that CIA had no objection to a change which would read: "CIA (with joint assistance and concurrence)", since it reflects what is actually being done in practice. The Committee approved the change.

2) Section 55, National Policies (with joint assistance) be changed to read: "State (with joint concurrence)".

The State member spoke at some length regarding this question. In substance he pointed out that State did, in fact, obtain joint assistance on Section 55 D, "National Defense Policies" through the comments of the Armed Forces attaches at the time drafts of Section 55 were sent to the Embassies for review. He said that more direct assistance from the Department of Defense Agencies would be welcome in respect to Section 55 D. He felt the remainder of Section 55 was wholly a State responsibility.

The Army member said that G-2 was also interested in Section 55 A since it reflected certain aspects of national defense policies. He did not think that joint assistance in the preparation of Section 55 was necessary so long as G-2 had opportunity to concur in the final draft before publication.

The Navy member reported that ONI would welcome the opportunity to concur in Section 55 D before publication.

The Air Force member said he had not formally consulted his Agency in this matter, but he was of the opinion that concurrence was unnecessary and no change should be made in the present procedures.

After further discussion, the Chairman advanced a tentative proposal for the change to read: "Section 55 D, National Defense Policies, State (with joint concurrence)". He further suggested that a definite time limit of about 10 days be set in which concurrence would have to be made, so as not to delay review and publication of Section 55. The Chairman asked the members to review this proposal for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Committee.

3) Section 56, Intelligence and Security, CIA (with joint assistance) be changed to read: "CIA (with joint concurrence)".

Action on Section 56 was deferred at the request of the Army member to enable him to look further into the matter.

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4) Section 57, Subversive, State (with joint assistance) be changed to read: "State (with joint concurrence)".

5) Subsection 62C, Petroleum, State (with the assistance of the Department of the Interior) be changed to read: "State (with the assistance of the Department of the Interior and with joint concurrence)".

Items 4) and 5) above were deferred so that they might be re-examined and discussed further at the next meeting of the NIS Committee.

b. Production and Maintenance

1) The minimum requirement of NIS production be reduced to six per year.

The Army member stated that increased operational requirements and reduction of personnel made necessary a realignment of effort. It appeared that in some areas the D/A could produce only six NIS a year.

The Chairman pointed out that even though full commitments could not be met in all sections or areas, it was desirable to maintain the higher level of 8 NIS as a broad long term objective. Moreover, other agencies were generally geared to the 8 NIS level. To have Army reduce its production requirements to 6 NIS would require either an across-the-board reduction by all agencies in view of the interrelated production aspects, or an uneven balance between Army and the other contributors.

The Chairman also pointed out that the Tentative Production Schedule for 1955 already exceeded the 8 NIS level by some 120 sections. This had been emphasized to all members at a previous meeting, and Army's schedule was currently being reduced considerably. The Chairman suggested, therefore, that any further consideration of Army's proposal be deferred until a more realistic schedule was developed. Further improvement in Army's situation would be realized with the discontinuance of Supplement III production, and the possible transfer of Army responsibilities for Chapter VIII coordination and production of Section 45 to other agencies, both of which proposals were before the Committee.

2) An effective system of timely maintenance be established.

In speaking of this proposal, the Army member said that his agency had in mind some form of interim report in those cases where changes did not require a complete revision. The Chairman said that a study of this problem as it affected State's responsibilities was under way. He felt this study should be completed before anything be undertaken on the present proposal.

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c. Chapter VIII Coordination

The responsibility for coordinating Chapter VIII and of preparing Sections 18 and 80, be rotated to the Navy and Air Force in turn on a three to five year basis.

The Chairman pointed out that Army was the logical coordinator for Chapter VIII in view of the large number of areas in which ground forces play the predominant role. The responsibilities of Chapter VIII coordinator involve much more than merely incorporating contributions from the three Services into readable Sections 18 and 80. They must include a large measure of substantive knowledge about the forces involved. Therefore, it appears that Army will still have to work very closely with any new coordinator to insure that the sections reflect a proper perspective and significance of Ground Forces. The Army member concurred in these remarks but stated that G-2 did not have a qualified man to assign to this work, and would not be able to continue its coordinating responsibilities.

The Navy member said that, in view of the mutual interest of the three Services, rotation of coordination for Chapter VIII was desirable from Navy's point of view. He expressed the willingness of Navy to assume responsibility for the coordination of Chapter VIII for the next three years, at which time the matter would be considered again by the Committee for reassignment of responsibility. The Committee approved this reassignment subject to arrangements being worked out between the Army and Navy for transfer of responsibility at a mutually agreed upon date.

d. Section 45 Responsibility

The Army be relieved of production responsibility for Section 45.

The Army member reported that the Surgeon General's Office could no longer produce Section 45 (Health and Sanitation) because of heavy commitments for intelligence more useful to military medicine. Since much of the material in Section 45 more properly belongs in the sociological field, Army feels that the SGO is not the proper office to do this work. Army plans to include the purely military aspects of Section 45 in Section 81 (Ground Forces).

The State member suggested the possibility of State combining Sections 45 and 46 (Public Welfare) into a single section, "Public Health and Welfare", since the two sections are closely related and State has never been too happy with the way Section 46 has developed.

The Chairman asked the State member to explore this possibility more fully with his Agency and report his findings to the Committee at the next meeting.

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6. Status of NIS 43 (Indochina)


Copies of a memorandum from the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, dated 13 April 1954, setting forth the urgent need for NIS on Indochina were distributed to the members, together with a status report prepared by D/B showing the Sections published, in process, scheduled in FY '54 and '55 and outstanding on NIS 43. The Chairman stated that D/B will continue to handle at highest priority all sections on NIS 43 which come in. He said that more than 50% of NIS 43 had been completed. In the case of scheduled sections, Army was overdue on 3 sections and State on 1 section. He urged all agencies to give priority to scheduled Sections, and requested the State member to see what could be done to incorporate the unscheduled Sections - all of which are State's responsibility - into the 1955 schedule, so that a Chapter I on NIS 43 could be gotten underway. The Chairman said he would see that Section 56, produced by CIA, was started at the earliest practicable date.

7. Miscallany

The Chairman notified the Committee that Section 21 for NIS 25 (Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus) will not be done since everything can be handled in Section 20.

The State member anticipated difficulty in meeting the 1955 schedule for Chapters I, but he will re-examine the situation in an endeavor to meet the schedule if at all possible.

8. Because of the lateness of the hour, the remaining agenda items were left for the next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, 27 April 1954 at 1000 hours.

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